

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 OES-03 IGA-01 /071 W

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P 290838Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8907

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS:

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE POPULATION PLANNING

FOR PHILIPPINE DESK

ALSO PASS KANGAS

1. REPRESENTATIVES OF NEDA, POPCOM AND USAID MET WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT NEDA INVITATION TO DISCUSS FUTURE U.S. ASSISTANCE TO PHILIPPINE POPULATION PROGRAMS.

2. A DEFINITE CONFLICT HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE COLLABORATIVE STYLE PRINCIPLE OF AID SUPPORT ENUNCIATED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE, AND AID/W REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION FOR THE AID SUPPORT PROGRAMS. GOP IS NOW WELL EMBARKED ON A NATION-WIDE PLANNING EXERCISE WHICH WILL IN EFFECT SET POPULATION TARGETS AT EVERY LEVEL OF OPERATION AND IDENTIFY CONCOMMITANT RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS. IN ADOPTING THIS "BOTTOM UP" PLANNING TECHNIQUE, GOP/ POPCOM EXPECTS TO ELICIT A GREATER DEGREE OF COMMITMENT BY LOWER ECHELON OFFICIALS TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOALS, SINCE THE LOCAL OFFICIALS THEMSELVES WILL HAVE HAD A MAJOR ROLE IN ESTABLISHING THOSE REQUIREMENTS. THE NATIONAL PLAN WILL IN EFFECT BE AN AGGREGATION OF ALL LOCAL ACTIVITIES BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE VARIOUS AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE POPULATION PROGRAM.

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3. USAID RESPECTS THE RIGHT OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT

TO SET ITS OWN GOALS AND PLAN ITS OWN PROGRAMS TO ACHIEVE THOSE GOALS. FOLLOWING THE DICTATES OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE, THE MISSION WISHES TO BE FULLY RESPONSIVE AND SUPPORTIVE OF SUCH GOP PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES INsofar AS THEY FALL WITHIN THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN THE MANDATE.

4. IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE, THE PHILIPPINE PLAN WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSION WITH US AND SUBSEQUENT FORMULATION OF A USAID SUPPORT PLAN UNTIL APRIL OR MAY 1976, AT WHICH TIME IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DEVELOP PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION COVERING USAID SUPPORT TO GOP POPULATION PROGRAMS OVER THE SUCCEEDING THREE TO FOUR YEAR PERIOD.

5. THE MISSION FULLY RECOGNIZES THAT A GOP PLAN AVAILABLE IN APRIL GIVES US VERY LITTLE BASIS FOR FORMULATING SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR EITHER FY 1976 OR FOR THE FY 77 CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION WHICH IS DUE THE END OF THIS CALENDAR YEAR. OUR MEETING WITH NEDA AND POPCOM WAS BASICALLY TO DETERMINE HOW THIS DILEMMA COULD BE RESOLVED. THE MOST REASONABLE COMPROMISE APPEARS TO FOLLOW THESE LINES:

A. USAID WILL BASE ITS SUPPORT PLAN FOR FUTURE YEARS ON THE GOP POPCOM PLAN WHICH WILL BECOME AVAILABLE NEXT APRIL.  
B. IN THE INTERIM, REPRESENTATIVES OF USAID/POP AND POPCOM WILL WORK TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE ALREADY KNOWN TO BE REQUIRED BY THE GOP PLAN AND WHICH ALSO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE.  
C. FOLLOWING APPROVAL BY NEDA AND THE MISSION, THESE ACTIVITIES, WITH SUPPORTING JUSTIFICATION, WILL BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON AS THE INTERIM REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM UNTIL FULL PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION BASED ON THE GOP PLAN CAN BE FORMULATED.

6. FYI, POPCOM OFFICIALS HAVE OPPOSED THE CONCEPT OF AID SUPPORT IN FY 1976 FOR DISCRETE ACTIVITIES. THEY WOULD PREFER THE MISSION GIVE THEM A BLANKET PROMISE OF PROGRAM SUPPORT EQUIVALENT TO SAY 20 PERCENT OR SO OF THEIR TOTAL PROGRAM. IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THIS CONSTITUTES A CONSCIOUS POLICY TO WITHHOLD SPECIFIC REQUESTS UNTIL THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR WHEN THEY MAY CONCEIVE IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING BUT PROVIDE ACROSS THE BOARD PROGRAM SUPPORT. AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE POPCOM IS UNDER NO PARTICULAR PRESSURE AT THIS TIME TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL USAID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESOURCES SINCE THE FY 1975 PROJECT AGREEMENT PROVIDED FOR ONE YEAR FORWARDED FUNDING OF THE PROJECT. THUS THEY ALREADY HAVE SUFFICIENT USAID SUPPORT IN HAND TO MEET THEIR ROUTINE REQUIREMENTS THROUGH JUNE 30, 1976. END FYI.

7. AS A RESULT OF THE OCTOBER 22ND CONFERENCE, NEDA DIRECTED POPCOM TO COLLABORATE FULLY AND AT ONCE WITH USAID/POP REPRESENTATIVES TO FORMULATE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS, OR TO INFORM NEDA AND

USAID OFFICIALLY THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO NEED FOR USAID SUPPORT  
IN FY 76 AND FY 77.

8. TO ASSIST POPCOM TO RAPIDLY IDENTIFY ACTIVITIES WHICH USAID  
CONSIDERS SUITABLE FOR FUNDING WITHIN AGENCY GUIDELINES,  
USAID OFFERED A LIST OF TWENTY POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES  
UNDER FOUR MAJOR HEADINGS: RURAL OUTREACH; IMPORVED METHOD  
MIX; DEMOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENT; AND PRIVATE SECTOR. MISSION WILL  
KEEP YOU ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY OCCUR. SUGGEST YOU  
DISCUSS FURTHER DETAILS WITH KANGAS DURING HIS CURRENT TDY IN  
WASHINGTON.

9. DECONTROLLED FOLLOWING JUNE 30, 1976.  
SULLIVAN

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**Draft Date:** 29 OCT 1975  
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